

Dept. Takes Action To Answer Questions raised by Chm. Short On "Attractiveness"

ntagon officials this week were at work compiling data to be used in responding to questions raised by Chairman J. Short of the House Armed Services Committee in a letter to Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson.

Representative Short's letter is seen as a tip-off to a probable inquiry by his Committee into the problem of "fringe benefits" shortly after Congress reconvenes in January.

Here is the complete text of the Chairman's letter to the Secretary:

Honorable Charles E. Wilson
The Secretary of Defense
Washington 25, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Secretary:

For some time this Committee has noted with increasing concern, adverse developments regarding the conditions of service of military personnel. The recent statements of alarm by civilian and uniformed heads of the Services have increased this committee's apprehensions with respect to direct and indirect benefits, and living conditions of officer and enlisted personnel. Needless to say, these problems are of fundamental importance and their solution calls for our detailed consideration and study. Among the factors which are reported to have contributed to the present conditions are the rising costs of living coupled with a decrease in the so-called fringe-benefits of those in the Armed Services.

In order that this committee may properly evaluate the problem of service housing, retirement, and direct and indirect benefits, it is necessary for us to have certain basic and comparative data. Therefore, it is requested that the conclusions, and supporting facts, of the Hook Commission concerning service benefits (considered as part of pay) be made available to this committee.

It is further requested that a comparative analysis be made to show the differences in the pay and benefits received by Foreign Service officers and the pay and benefits received by armed forces officers, of comparable rank, in the following respects:

A. Basic pay and salaries, showing pay increases since 1950.

B. Allowances and benefits within the United States and abroad.

(1) Quarters, to include comparison of government quarters and quarters abroad where such are available; and the allowances received by each where government quarters and utilities are not available both in the United States and abroad.

(2) Special allowances for cost of temporary quarters incurred by member and his family upon arrival at a new station.

(3) Cost of living allowances for specific areas abroad.

(4) Allowances for extraordinary and necessary expenses incurred by member incident to the establishment of his residence at his post of assignment.

(5) Allowances for service in dangerous and unhealthy areas or under adverse living conditions abroad.

(6) Allowance for maintaining wife and minor children elsewhere than in the country of assignment.

(7) Per diem allowances:

(a) for officers;

(b) for dependents.

C. Travel and related expenses in the United States and abroad.

(1) Conditions under which travel pay may be drawn for travel within the United States.

(2) Actual rates of reimbursement for travel performed by member.

(3) Conditions under which travel expenses of dependents may be claimed.

(4) Rates of reimbursement for travel performed by dependent.

(5) Percentage of instances in which Foreign Service and military officers are permitted to travel with their family in proceeding to a new duty station abroad.

D. Transporting or storing furniture and household and personal effects.

(1) Conditions under which expenses will be met by the Government.

(2) Weight allowances according to rank.

(3) Conditions under which expenses for storing will be met by the Government.

E. Conditions under which the government will provide household equipment for use of members on a loan basis, with typical list of items available for such use.

F. Conditions under which privately owned automobiles will be shipped at government expense.

G. Commissary or mess services, or post exchanges or equivalent facilities, available overseas.

H. Leaves of absence.

(1) Number of days authorized.

(2) Provisions for travel at government expense of member and dependents incident to leave.

(3) Provisions for accumulating or transferring leave.

(4) Average per capita annual leave actually taken during past two years by armed forces and foreign service officers.

I. Medical benefits available to member and dependents.

J. Approximate percentage of foreign service officers authorized government owned automobiles with chauffeur for private use compared with percentage of armed services officers with automobiles so assigned.

K. Allowances or payments authorized for domestic help or other employees connected with household maintenance.

L. Retirement and disability benefits.

(1) Provisions for entitlement to voluntary retirement with restrictions (statutory and administrative), if any.

(2) Financial benefits to wife and other dependents upon death of member.

(3) Restrictions on employment after retirement, if any.

M. Educational benefits.

(1) Provisions for expenses incident to the education of dependents of members.

(2) Provisions for, and approximate percentages of members receiving post-graduate or other instruction on a full-time basis at private institutions.

(3) Provisions for government payment for off-duty instruction showing availability of such benefits by rank.

N. Provisions relating to expenses incident to bringing home remains of personnel and family dying abroad.

O. A comparison of promotional opportunities for foreign service officers with those now in effect for officers of the Armed Services.

IN ADDITION to the above it is requested that this committee be provided with data showing those instances in which there are discrepancies in the legal benefits afforded those in the Regular Service and those in Reserve components of the armed forces, including benefits received by dependents or next of kin of a deceased member. This should include benefits administered by the military departments as well as those administered by agencies outside the Department of Defense. And also, it is requested that this Committee receive, at the same time, the Defense Department's recommendation for equalization of Regular and Reserve survivor's benefits.

Further, it is requested that a study be made of the effect of current OFFICER RETIREMENT provisions in order to ascertain the ultimate effect of their continuation on the career planning structure of the armed forces. Aside from its effect on officer career planning such a study should ascertain the actual monetary economies, if any, which result from voluntary retirement after 20 years' active service—i.e.: Is it less expensive to permit officers to retire after 20 years of service and replace those officers with young junior officers than to require not less than 30 years of service for all officers. Your recommendations as to appropriate legislation necessary for remedying any defects in the current career planning program are solicited.

I should appreciate a reply to these questions not later than 1 Jan. 1954.

Very sincerely,

DEWEY SHORT,

Chairman.

Copy to: The Secretary of State.

Gen. Cushman To Retire

Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Cushman, Deputy Commander, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, will retire early next year, the Marine Corps disclosed this week.

The 58-year-old aviator, now en route to the United States, will be succeeded by Maj. Gen. Vernon E. Meggee on about 7 Dec. General Meggee has been in command of the 1st Marine Air Wing in Korea.

General Cushman will report to Air, FMF, Pacific, El Toro, Calif., for duty until his retirement. A Marine flier for 34 years, he took the first Marine aviation units into Korean combat in 1950 and later commanded the 1st MAW there, winning the DSM and his second Legion of Merit.

Changing Station? Notify the Army Navy Air Force Journal promptly to avoid missing any issues.



Maj. Gen. Cushman

7 November 1953

Army Navy Air Force Journal

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THE KING AND QUEEN OF GREECE (second and third from left) review the Brigade of Midshipmen at the U. S. Naval Academy during a visit which the royal couple made to Annapolis last week. In the front row (left to right) are Capt. Edwin S. Miller, USN, Midshipman Executive Officer; Queen Frederika; King Paul; Vice Adm. C. Turner Joy, USNA Superintendent; Mrs. Joy; and Capt. Charles A. Buchanan, Commandant of Midshipmen.

Navy Plans To Reduce Wave Commander Ranks, Action Will Cancel Vacancy Slated Next November

The Navy disclosed this week that it plans to make a further cut in the authorized number of Regular Line Wave commanders.

Although the Waves now have only four Regular Line commanders, the Bureau of Personnel said when the 1 January computations are completed "it is anticipated" that the Bureau "will recommend to the Secretary of the Navy that the authorized number of Wave commanders be reduced."

Acting JAG Rules

The action will cancel out the vacancy created next November by the retirement of Comdr. Bess Dunn.

The Acting Judge Advocate General of the Navy recently ruled that it is not mandatory for the Secretary of the Navy to convene a selection board for women officers in a year in which no vacancies occur. However, the law states that vacancies occurring within the ensuing 12-month period must also be considered and, in view of Commander Dunn's coming retirement, THE JOURNAL asked how the Bureau arrived at the statement that there were no vacancies.

Capt. W. G. Cooper, BuPers Assistant Chief for Plans, answered the question on the basis of vacancies in fiscal 1955. He said:

"In the administration of the promotion of Wave officers to the grade of commander a modified form of the running mate system as used with Navy male staff corps officers is employed. With this type of promotion plan a rate of flow is provided and equality of opportunity between adjacent groups of persons is maintained. The number of officers authorized in any grade then is adjusted to accommodate the promotion flow rate and the selection percentage.

Recommend Reduction

"In the case of the Wave commanders it is anticipated in consonance with the above that, upon the completion of the 1 January 1954 census and computation, this Bureau will recommend to the Secretary of the Navy that the authorized number of Wave commanders be reduced with the result of cancelling out the vacancy referred to.

"This question is not, however, pertinent at this time as our vacancies are customarily determined as near as possible on a fiscal year basis and the question of promotion in fiscal 1955 will not be settled until the fiscal 1955 strength is known."

Following Captain Cooper's statement, it was learned that another development in the Wave problem is now shaping up which may mean the Navy will be called before a Congressional committee to defend the promotion pattern which BuPers has established for the Waves. One of the leading Reserve organizations has interested itself in the case and reportedly will ask for a hearing on the matter when Congress reconvenes next January.

Select Women Marines, Two Named To Lt. Col.

The Marine Corps this week named six Regular Women Marines for promotion to lieutenant colonel and major.

The group included two officers—Majors Margaret M. Henderson and Elsie E. Hill—who were selected for lieutenant colonel, and four who were named for promotion to major: Captains Nita B. Warner, Ben A. Day, Jeanette I. Sustad and Mary J. Hale.

The selections give the Marine Corps a total of four Regular Women lieutenant colonels (or about 7 1/2 per cent of their Regular officer strength), as compared to the Navy's total of five Regular Line Wave commanders (less than one per cent of the Regular Wave strength). The Integration Act permits both Services to have up to 10 per cent in the grade of commander-lieutenant colonel. The figures include the Director of the Waves and the Director of Women Marines.

Observers told THE JOURNAL they believe the Marine selections invalidate many of the arguments advanced by the Navy for not promoting more Wave officers to Regular commander. Both Services operate under the same law and in the past the Navy has pointed to "different" laws for the Army and Air Force as reasons why the latter Services can have more officers in the rank of lieutenant colonel.

AF Mutual Security Chief

Brig. Gen. John J. O'Hara, formerly on duty with the Joint Allied Military Advisory Group in London, has assumed new duties at USAF Headquarters as Assistant for Mutual Security to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Materiel.

General O'Hara replaced Brig. Gen. Frederick E. Calhoun, who became director of industrial resources.

Advertisers in the Army Navy Air Force Journal support the Armed Forces and are familiar with their requirements.

UNITED STATES ARMY

Maj. Gen. Cummings Sworn In As Army 20th CofOrd

Maj. Gen. Emerson L. Cummings was sworn in as the Army Chief of Ordnance on 2 Nov. in the office of General Charles L. Bolte, Vice Chief of Staff.

The oath was administered by Maj. Gen. William E. Berghin, The Adjutant General.

General Cummings, 51, is the youngest to serve on Chief of Ordnance since WW I. He succeeds Maj. Gen. E. L. Ford, who retired last week.

General Cummings was graduated from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point in 1924. He received his commission in the Army Corps of Engineers. Detailed to Ordnance in 1932, he transferred to that branch in February, 1936.

During WW II, General Cummings served in Europe as Chief of the Industrial Division in the Office of the Chief of Ordnance in that theater. Since September, 1950, he has been the Chief of the Industrial Division, Office of the Chief of Ordnance, in Washington, D. C., serving also as Assistant Chief of Ordnance.



Maj. Gen. Cummings

Army EM Promotions

The Army has authorized 59,800 enlisted promotions for November, a drop of 3600 from the 63,400 October total.

Officials said that the quotas reflect the promotion needs of the various commands.

The November quotas with the October comparisons in parentheses follow: E-7, 600 (750); E-6, 4,000 (3,750); E-5, 14,600 (15,400), and E-4, 40,600 (43,500).

New Duties For Engr. Cols.

New assignments for four Corps of Engineer officers are by Maj. Gen. S. D. Sturgis, jr., Chief of Engineers, as follows:

Col. Louis J. Rumaggt, Engineer, Eighth Army, Korea, to Engineer, Army Field Forces, Ft. Monroe, Va.

Col. Robert J. Fleming, jr., who has been Engineer, Army Field Forces, Ft. Monroe, Va., since June 1951, to be District Engineer, Philadelphia.

Col. Walter Krueger, jr., who has been District Engineer at Philadelphia since March 1952, to be assigned to the Engineer Development Board, Ft. Belvoir, Va.

Col. Paul D. Berrigan, South Pacific Division Engineer, San Francisco, California, to be a member of the Army's Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, in addition to his other duties, succeeding Brig. Gen. Emerson C. Itschner.

Col. Rossberg Retires

Col. Raymond A. Rossberg, who has been U. S. Property and Disbursing Officer for Minnesota for the past 26 years, is retiring from active Federal service. However, he will continue as State Quartermaster of the National Guard of the State of Minnesota.

He will be succeeded by Lt. Col. Dean K. Torney, who has been an employee of the State's Military Department for the past 17 years, and assistant to Colonel Rossberg since the end of WW II.

10th Armored History

The history of the 10th Armored "Tiger" Division will be published on 19 Dec. Pre-publication price, if ordered now, is \$5.00. Checks should be made payable to Lester Nichols, 166 Russell St., White Plains, New York. After publication, the book will sell for \$7.50.



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Gala Ceremonies Set For New WAC Training Center

Lt. Gen. A. R. Bolling, Third Army Commanding General, has announced that dignitaries from throughout the state and nation, as well as many high ranking military figures, have been invited to attend the formal cornerstone laying ceremonies at the new Women's Army Corps Center, Ft. McClellan, Ala., on 16 Nov.

The new WAC Center will house and train all women from throughout the nation who enter the Army.

Full scale operation of the Center is expected to get underway early next year. All WAC training heretofore has been at Ft. Lee, Va., where it will continue, until the opening of the new WAC Center at Ft. McClellan.

According to General Bolling, Alabama Senators John Sparkman and Lister Hill and other government, state, and local officials have also been invited to Ft. McClellan to witness the cornerstone laying, as well as civic leaders from communities in the vicinity of the post.

Guardsmen Busy

Maj. Gen. Edgar C. Erickson, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, has announced that some 240,000 National Guardsmen in more than 4,500 Army units completed 15 days of full-time field training during the summer.

About 26,000 NG officers and 214,000 enlisted men from units in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Hawaii, participated in the training which topped off 48 weekly periods of Army training during the preceding year. National Guardsmen in Alaska, including the Alaskan Scout battalions, take their field training in the late fall months.

"The outstanding rate of attendance," General Erickson said, "attests both to the high morale existing among individual National Guardsmen and recognition of the importance of the National Guard to national security among the nation's business and industrial leaders."

Soldier's Medal To Lt. Col.

Lt. Col. James E. Hammer, former commanding officer of the 40th Infantry Division's 578th Engineer Combat Battalion, recently was awarded the Soldier's Medal, the nation's highest decoration for non-combat heroism.

Colonel Hammer was cited for directing fire extinguishing activities when an ammunition dump in the battalion area was ignited. Despite exploding ammunition, he directed a tank into the middle of the blaze, putting out the fire and spreading the ammunition. His action was credited with saving the lives of many soldiers in the area and preventing the loss of great ammunition supplies.

Chaplain At Walter Reed

Lt. Col. Alford V. Bradley has been named Post Chaplain at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. For the past three years he has been in Japan as senior chaplain with the 141st Army Hospital.

OCAFF Group To

Lt. Gen. John E. Dahlquist, Army Field Forces, is heading a

reservation and inspection team which for the Far East this week to determine if training standards and doctrines used at military installations in this country are meeting the requirements of overseas commands.

The group will study combat training and combat support operations, arm and service organizations, materiel and personnel in Korea and other strategic points.

Other Members

Other members of the OCAFF team with General Dahlquist are: Brig. Gen. Samuel G. Conley, Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, in charge of general training; Capt. Herman H. Kait, U. S. Naval Liaison Officer to the Office, Chief of Army Field Forces; Col. Roderick L. Carmichael, Logistical Training and Doctrine Division, G-4 (Logistics); Col. Henry L. Davisson, G-2 (Intelligence); Lt. Col. Walter J. Rozamus, Artillery Division, Combat Arms Advisory Group; Lt. Col. Vincent P. Carlson, Training Division, Engineers Section; Lt. Col. Claire S. Curtis, Procurement and Distribution Division, G-1 (Personnel) Section; Lt. Col. Robert M. Hall, Professional Service Division, Medical Section; Lt. Col. Frank Petruzel, Infantry Branch, Combined Arms Training Division, G-3 (Training) Section; Lt. Col. William H. Witt, Information Officer and Capt. William M. Hearn, aide to General Dahlquist.

Also In Party

Included in the group but not from the Office, Chief of Army Field Forces are Col. Gordon G. Warner from the Artillery School, Ft. Sill, Okla., and Col. Wolcott K. Dudley from The Infantry School, Ft. Benning, Ga.

ROKS Train At Benning

A group of Republic of Korea Army officers arrived at Ft. Benning, Ga., last week to begin 20 weeks of training at The Infantry School.

The class, which includes 155 Infantry officers and three ROK Marine Corps Officers, was welcomed by Maj. Gen. C. S. Meloy, jr., school commandant. This is the fifth ROK Army group to train at Ft. Benning.

Honored By Third Army

Third Army awarded Certificates of Achievement to two retiring officers last week.

Col. Lafayette J. Shurtliff, executive officer in the Inspector General Section, and Lt. Col. John O'Connell, assistant chief of the Supply Division, Quartermaster Section, received the awards from Lt. Gen. A. R. Bolling, Third Army CG.



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